

### **III. REMARKS**

Claims 1, 5, 6 and 8 are pending in this application. By this amendment claims 1, 5, 6 and 8 have been amended; and, claims 2-4, 7 and 9 are cancelled. Applicant does not acquiesce in the correctness of the rejections and reserve the right to present specific arguments regarding any rejected claims not specifically addressed. Furthermore, Applicant reserves the right to pursue the full scope of the subject matter of the original claims in a subsequent patent application that claims priority to the instant application. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is requested.

In the Office Action, claim 4-6 and 8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication of allowable subject matter. Applicant has rewritten claims 4-6 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Specifically, claim 1 has been rewritten to incorporate all of the limitations of claim 4 (previous); and, claims 5 and 6 have been rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicant requests withdrawal of the objection.

Claims 1 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over El-Tarhuni et al. (US Patent No. 6,201,828), hereinafter “El-Tarhuni”, in view of Komatsu (US Patent No. 6,816,542), hereinafter “Komatsu”. Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over El-Tarhuni in view of Komatsu and further in view of Aue (US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0051486), hereinafter “Aue”. Claim 7 is rejected under

35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over El-Tarhuni, Komatsu, and Aue and further in view of Bultan et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0057506), hereinafter "Bultan".

Based on the aforementioned rewriting of claims 4-6 and 8 into independent format and the cancellation of the subject matter previously in claims 1-3, 7 and 9, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

#### **IV. CONCLUSION**

In light of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner require anything further to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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